

different direction. So if you cut through all the tweets and the chaos and confusion and the noise and the cable television in Washington, D.C. and look at the direction of the country, I think it's significantly different.

I'll give a couple of examples of that: rolling back regulations—only once before this administration and this Republican majority in Congress, we've used a provision in the law that allows us to overturn a regulation with 51 votes. We've done it 15 times in the last 15 months, including the blacklisting rule, including the OSHA record keeping rule. Most of you know about all these things in detail so I won't go into detail, but those are important. They're unusual and they're a completely different direction.

We passed the first major tax reform for 31 years. In Tennessee, I hear a lot about that, not just from individuals whose taxes are lower but I hear it from corporations who are now paying 21 percent on their income tax. But I'm hearing especially about being able to deduct capital investments in the first year, and I think we can see the results in the economy.

We have been able to confirm experienced and qualified nominees in a whole range of areas and I would suggest that in no area has the shift in policy been more marked than in the Labor area. For example, there's a new labor secretary, Acosta. A new deputy labor secretary, Pizzella. There's a new NLRB chairman Ring, NLRB member Kaplan, NLRB member Emanuel, NLRB general counsel. Those are big changes in the policy direction of this country. Then we've been examining, or these new appointees have been examining policies that are harmful that you work on a regular basis. Let's start with joint employer guidance. At least Secretary Acosta was able to pull back that guidance as it bled over from the NLRB to the department.

The problem with the joint-employer decision for me is that we live in a time when it's harder to find a good middle class job close to home. People are always flying here, flying there in what I would call the Internet economy. The hundreds of thousands of franchisees we have in America are an opportunity for mom or mom and dad or a family to work 12 hours a day, work several days a week, build their own business in their own home, contribute to their own community and be a part of the American middle class. And the joint employer decision during the last administration was a direct assault on that route for the middle class. And I'm glad to see this administration heading in a different direction on that as well as the Micro Union decision, as well as beginning to review the Ambush Election Rule.

These are all major, major decisions. Where are we likely to go on joint employer? Well, the House has done its job, but in the Senate to get legislative results, you need 60 votes, and that's going to be hard to do—impossible to do—without Democratic support. We don't have any Democratic support in the Senate right now. Your association has been working hard to try and develop that. I hear Democrats privately talking about it, but when it comes to co-sponsor a bill or vote for a bill, they don't want to do that. So I think I would suggest to keep pushing, but a more likely solution is when the NLRB revisits the rule, because that's after all how it was changed in the first place, and by a new administration with new appointees from a center-right administration and a center-right Senate that keeps things headed in that direction.

Last thing I want to mention to you has to do with what I believe is a prominent Labor Department proposed rule involving health insurance called association health plans. I worked for the last seven months to try to at

least temporarily fix the individual market. President Trump asked me to do it. He did a very good job of working with us. In the end, we had a proposal which he called Senator McConnell and Speaker Ryan and asked him to put it in the omnibus spending bill a month ago. They agreed to do it but the Democrats blocked it because Democrats didn't want to vote for the so called Hyde compromise language that they'd been voting for on elective abortion since 1976 and that they voted for in a hundred other provisions in the same bill. The shame of that is that we have millions of Americans who don't get any government subsidy. A contractor, for example, may be earning \$60,000 and paying 15 or \$20,000 for their insurance.

We had a proposal and Oliver Wyman—the experts in health consulting—said over these next three years would reduce those premiums up to 40 percent. If you're paying \$20,000 for your health insurance and you get an \$8,000 reduction, those are real bucks. So we have to turn to the administration to get changes in the Affordable Care Act. One of the most promising potential administrative changes is Secretary Acosta's proposed rule, and I hope you've followed it. It basically would allow uninsured people who are self-employed and more small business people to enjoy some of the same health insurance benefits that people who work for large companies do. Most Americans get a subsidy of some sort from the government for their health insurance. More than half of Americans get their insurance on the job, they get in effect about a \$5,000 subsidy because of the way the tax code interacts with the employer deductions and the income that goes to the employee on large group insurance. So, if you're a small business person, you get the same kind of insurance that somebody who works for IBM might have.

It would be cheaper. I just mentioned the amount of the deduction, and it wouldn't have the same protections that the large group plans have where you couldn't be charged because of a pre-existing condition, you couldn't be denied insurance or be denied coverage. You'd have to have coverage offered for your kids up to the age 26. You couldn't have lifetime limits and you would have of course, the lower costs. That could affect 9,000,000 Americans like the contractor I described who are getting hammered by Obamacare because they get no subsidies when they buy their insurance, and could affect the 11,000,000 other people who are self-employed or work for small businesses that don't provide health insurance. So that rule is not yet final. It's been published by the Department of Labor for everybody to consider.

I expect it to soon become final. And I expect that when it is, it's likely to be the single greatest development in the near term for individuals who are either uninsured or who worked for small businesses and who can't afford the insurance that is offered. So thanks for all that you do. We'll keep our eye on joint employer. At the very least, our committee can continue to focus on it. My hope is that the NLRB revisits the issue soon.

And I hope you remember when you think about this administration and you look through the chaos and the tweets and all that goes on here, that if you stripped that all away, there's a picture of a country heading in a significantly different direction with a better economy, lower taxes, fewer regulations, more conservative judges, a repeal of a significant part of Dodd Frank, an energy bill in Alaska that we've been trying for 40 years to do, a different NLRB, more local control of schools and a repeal the individual mandate.

In a big democratic, messy government, that's a significant shift of direction. I hope

we can add joint employer to it before very long.●

RECOGNIZING THE BUSY BEE CAFE

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Mary Ann and Mark Petree for their contributions to Musselshell County as owners of Roundup's Busy Bee Cafe for almost 50 years.

For folks across Musselshell County, the Busy Bee Cafe is iconic. It is a place for the community to gather, have a great meal, and enjoy the best pie in Montana. The Busy Bee Cafe has grown to be a staple in the community, and that comes as a result of their owners, Mary Ann and Mark Petree.

Mary Ann and Mark bought the Busy Bee Cafe 49 years ago. When they purchased the Busy Bee Cafe, they saw the restaurant's potential. Business quickly grew, and they began expanding the size of the restaurant. Business today remains booming, while still holding onto the personal touches that drew them to the cafe in the first place.

With both of their children now grown, Mary Ann and Mark are able to dedicate their time to keeping the business running smoothly. They pride themselves on the local touch of all their food, with 95 percent of it being homemade. Every morning, Mary Ann and Mark start their day by serving coffee to the Busy Bee Cafe regulars.

I congratulate Mary Ann and Mark Petree on their 49 years of dedication to the Busy Bee Cafe. As a result of their hard work and attention to detail in every aspect of the business, the Busy Bee Cafe is a local favorite that brings together the greater Musselshell County.●

REMEMBERING DR. T. BERRY BRAZELTON

● Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, today, it is my privilege to honor the work and achievements of Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, who dedicated his life to understanding the development of infants and young children and improving their lives, on what would have been his 100th birthday. Dr. Brazelton passed away on March 13, 2018, in Barnstable, MA.

Known as America's pediatrician, Dr. Brazelton's pioneering work in child development changed earlier concepts that parenting needed to be a rigid process. In addition to the clinical aspects of his work as a practicing pediatrician, he was also a scientist who observed, analyzed, and learned about the nature of babies and children and their interactions with their parents. His observations led to newfound understandings of how infants develop, including the importance of the parent-child relationship during the first stages of life. Dr. Brazelton also developed strong connections to the parents of the children with whom he worked. He was among the first researchers

who used video to observe parent-infant interactions, and his teachings provided parents with the security and skills they needed to understand their babies. Throughout his career, Dr. Brazelton worked with tens of thousands of parents and children, published more than 30 books on pediatrics and child development, and founded the Brazelton Touchpoints Center at Boston Children's Hospital.

Dr. Brazelton's work and influence extended past the research lab and his pediatric practice. He created Touchpoints, professional training programs that equip family-facing providers with the skills they need to empower parents and families through research-informed family engagement practice. Dr. Brazelton and I shared a commitment to advancing the health and safety of children, and his approach to child wellness helped to inspire much of my work on this critical issue. Dr. Brazelton was credited for putting the practice of natural childbirth and breastfeeding back at the forefront of childrearing practices. His research contributed to the removal of lead from gasoline in the United States, the enactment of the Family and Medical Leave Act, and many more policies aimed at expanding the rights of children.

Dr. Brazelton was more than just a clinician and scientist. His constant curiosity and charisma allowed him to cross many disciplines. He was a writer, a mentor, and a lover of the arts. He was loved by his wife, the late Christina Lowell Brazelton, and is survived by his children, Christina, Catherine, Pauline, and Thomas III, and his seven grandchildren.

Dr. Brazelton's research and findings garnered him many accolades and awards, including the Presidential Citizens Medal in 2013. However, the advances he made in science's understanding of the importance of the first years of life; the improvements in clinical care of infants, young children, and their parents; and the policies based on his scientific contributions to promote healthy child and family development will leave the biggest mark. We have lost a champion and visionary, but his legacy will live on in the hearts of many, and his work will continue to influence advancements in child development.●

TRIBUTE TO KERRY ADAMS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Kerry Adams, the Wakulla County Teacher of the Year from Shadeville Elementary School in Crawfordville, FL.

Kerry says the most important life lesson she teaches her students is that, even though things can be challenging, through struggle and desire they can achieve their goals. The growth her students achieve is especially notable because she works primarily with students whose previous year's test scores indicate they are struggling in math and/or reading.

Kerry recently had a student who entered her class and struggled with new math concepts. She worked with this student as a dedicated teacher who is committed to their student's success. At the beginning of the school year, he would grow frustrated and not want to correct his work. He settled for failure or less than his fullest potential. Kerry, however, would not settle for anything less than what she knew he could achieve.

Later that year, she gave him an assignment and told him she knew this was hard work, but 1 day, he will think back to this moment and appreciate her actions. This student left her classroom scoring on grade level and ready for success in the future.

Kerry graduated *summa cum laude* from Flagler College, earning a bachelor's degree in elementary education and holds the English for Speakers of Other Languages endorsement. She currently teaches math to fifth-grade inclusion classes and has taught all subjects in her 11 years of working with fifth graders.

I extend my best wishes to Kerry for her dedication to ensuring her students achieve their full potential. I look forward to hearing of her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN ANDREWS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to honor Brian Andrews, the Florida Principal of the Year from Lawton Chiles Middle Academy in Lakeland, FL.

Brian's colleagues commend him for the innovative ways he has led their school to incorporate innovation and technology into everyday learning. In one of the school's lab classrooms, students use 3D printers to make their computer-created designs come to life. They are then able to use a large spindle device to cut those designs into plywood. Elsewhere on campus, students work on and maintain a hydroponic garden.

Brian supports these new ideas for students and gives teachers flexibility in implementing the ideas in their classrooms. Brian instills his trust in his teachers to develop lesson plans and implement technology that benefits all students.

Brian firmly believes that, if something is good for the students, and his teachers focus on those needs that, despite the myriad of challenges faced in education, their students will be successful in life. He teaches his students to believe they can do anything and to believe in themselves.

Brian received his bachelor of arts degree in English literature and his master of science in education from Hofstra University in New York. He has worked in public education for 22 years and has served as an English teacher and administrator.

I would like to thank Brian for his dedication in providing students with a successful learning environment and

for the support he gives to the teachers. I extend my best wishes to Brian, and his family, and all of Lawton Chiles Middle Academy and look forward to hearing of his continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO TRACI ATHANASON

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to honor Traci Athanason, the Henderson County Teacher of the Year from Spring Hill Elementary School in Spring Hill, FL.

Traci believes the most challenging thing about teaching is motivating students who have no desire to be at school. She tackles this challenge by providing fun, engaging lessons and being her student's biggest cheerleader. It has been her belief that, when a teacher builds trust and rapport with their students, every student can achieve success.

As a teacher, Traci finds the most fulfilling aspect of her profession is empowering her students to take control of their own learning. Though teaching has its challenges, she is a firm believer in knowing every day is a chance for her to make a difference in the lives of her students.

The principal of her school attests that Traci is a problem-solver, an innovator, and a dynamic mentor to multiple first-year teachers on her team. She helps them build their lesson plans and develop their practice.

Traci is currently a fourth grade teacher at Spring Hill Elementary School. She earned her bachelor of arts degree in elementary education, along with her master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Central Florida. She has taught for 29 years, the last 7 in Hernando County. Her favorite subject to teach is writing.

I thank Traci for her devotion to educating students throughout her district. I extend my best wishes to her and look forward to hearing of her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO KAYLA BAILEY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Kayla Bailey, the Gulf County Teacher of the Year from Wewahitchka Elementary School in Wewahitchka, FL.

Kayla possesses a very positive attitude in the classroom and engages her students at a high level. These traits undoubtedly helped contribute to her receiving the Teacher of the Year award.

Her colleagues attest that Kayla works hard to learn the needs of every student in order to reach them at their instructional level. Kayla's desire to teach to the best of her ability and treat every available moment as teachable for her students distinguishes her among her peers.

Kayla is a fifth-grade English language arts teacher and, although relatively new to teaching and to the district, has quickly gained a reputation